1	2	3	4
18.	Kolkata Telecom Distt.	23.11.2001	20000
19.	Gujarat	22.10.2002	275000
20.	Maharashtra	21.10.2002	275000
21.	Madhya Pradesh including Chhattisgarh	20.10.2002	80000
22.	West Bengal	25.10.2002	67000

Long term foodgrains policy

*49. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the long term policy on food-grains submitted by Abhijit Sen Panel will open up huge business opportunity for the private sector;

(b) whether one of the recommendations was total decontrol of sugar and private grain storage and transport; and

(c) if so, how many of its recommendations have been considered and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) The High Level Committee on Long Term Grain Policy has, inter alia, recommended that barriers to private trade, economic as well as legal, should be eased, towards which end various measures have been suggested.

2. The Committee's Terms of Reference did not include Sugar Policy and therefore, no recommendations have been made in this behalf. As regards private grain storage and transport, while the Committee has not recommended total de-control, in order, however, to create a viable environment wherein the private sector could offer storage and warehousing facilities for the benefit of farmers, it has been recommended

that the system of negotiable warehouse receipts should be simplified and expanded.

3. The Committee's recommendations carry wide ramifications, requiring consultation with concerned Ministries/Departments and with State Governments which are in progress.

Visit by Minister of External Affairs to Malaysia

*50. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has visited Malaysia in September, 2002;

(b) if so, the matters discussed during the visit;

(c) whether extradition treaty between the two countries was discussed;

(d) if so, by when the treaty is likely to be finalized; and

(e) other details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. I visited Kuala Lumpur from 26-27 September, 2002 as head of the Indian delegation to the Third Meeting of the India- Malaysia Joint Commission.

(b) The Joint Commission meeting reviewed the progress on bilateral cooperation agreed upon during the earlier meetings and discussed measures for further enhancement of cooperation including in Trade and Investment; Infrastructure projects; Petroleum and Petrochemicals; Power Generation and Transmission; Transportation (shipping, railways and civil aviation), Culture including Youth and Sports; Human Resource Development; Education; Tourism; Information Technology; Agriculture; Defence; Science and Technology, Health; Consular and Labour issues; and ASEAN.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The meeting noted that both sides have finalized and initialed the text of the Treaty and will take necessary steps in accordance with the legal requirements of each country to sign the Extradition Treaty as early as possible.